

Industrial park paves way for cleaner environment

By LARRY HIGGS
Courier-News Staff Writer

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — Owners of the 25-acre Hamilton Industrial Park avoided a hefty fine Monday by starting work to pave soil contaminated with PCBs, the first step toward cleaning up the site.

"This is the first part of something larger," said Eric Wilson, on-scene coordinator for the federal Environmental Protection Agency. "Stabilizing the site reduces the potential for further exposure of the surrounding residents."

News that workers started preparing gravel and dirt areas of the site for paving was welcomed by nearby resi-

dents. They fear their health could be affected by chemical-laden dust blowing off the site.

"I feel the EPA is doing the right thing. It's taken a long time to get started," said Margaret Reidy, who lives on nearby Spicer Avenue. "I'm an asthmatic. My chief concern is whether the PCBs are airborne."

Testing is being done to determine if

contamination is at levels which would affect human health. EPA officials had issued an order to fine property owner DSC of Newark if work didn't start Monday. Rep. Bob Franks, R-New Providence, had urged EPA officials to levy a maximum of \$25,000 a day if work hadn't begun. Franks visited the Hamilton Boulevard site Monday. DSC hired crews from Bellamy

Brothers of Piscataway, which could finish the job in about two weeks, Wilson said.

The soils are contaminated with PCBs, which were used in the manufacture of electrical components when the property was owned by Cornell Dubilier, and lead and cadmium. Some contaminants were found in a section of the Bound Brook, adjacent to the site.

Silt screens will be erected and drains will be installed to protect the Bound Brook. Signs warning people of the site have been raised with fencing, Wilson said.

"This isn't Love Canal ... but we all want it done yesterday. It's being as done as fast as possible," said Councilman Ed Kubala, who lives two blocks away.

OBITUARIES

Judge Clarkson S. Fisher, ex-chief of N.J. federal judges

NEWARK (AP) — U.S. District Judge Clarkson S. Fisher, whose tenure as chief of the federal judges in the state laid the groundwork for construction of three new courthouses, has died. He was 76.

Fisher, who worked until taking ill several weeks ago, died Sunday at The Medical Center at Princeton, Chief U.S. District Judge Anne E. Thompson said Monday.

The cause of death was not released. He was a lifelong resident of Long Branch, Monmouth County.

Fisher served as chief judge from 1979-87, longer than any other chief in this district, Thompson said.

"This is a man who never took vacations. This was a New Jersey person who was happy working through July and August. Even though he was on senior status, he was handling a caseload that was comparable to an active judge," Thompson said.

Fisher served briefly as a state assemblyman in 1964 before being named a Monmouth County judge.

After the reorganization of the state court system, he was a Superior Court judge from 1966-70, when he was appointed to the federal bench by then-President Richard Nixon.

Fisher may have been best known



for a January 1992 decision in which he ruled that George McFarland, who as a boy in the 1930s and '40s played beanie-clad Spanky in the "Our Gang" films, held the

right to use the name "Spanky," but not the right to stop others from using it.

McFarland had sued a tavern owner in Ocean Township who called his bar "Spanky McFarland's" and put "Our Gang" photographs on its walls. Fisher ruled that McFarland relinquished rights to the Spanky name and image in a contract his parents signed with Hal Roach Studios in 1936.

Fisher dismissed the lawsuit. Two years later an appeals court ordered it reinstated, but by then McFarland, of Fort Worth, Texas, had died and the restaurant had closed.

Fisher received an honorary degree from the Seton Hall University Law School in 1988, and in 1989 he got the Justice William J. Brennan Award from the Association of the Federal Bar of New Jersey.

Isabel M. Grudinsky, RCA assembly worker

SOMERVILLE — Isabel M. Grudinsky, 77, died Sunday (July 27, 1997) at home.

Born in Girardville, she had lived in Somerville since 1943.

She was an assembly worker at RCA in Bridgewater for 30 years, retiring in 1988. She was a member of Immaculate Conception Church in Somerville. Surviving are her husband of 58

William L. Sidney, roofer in family business

BRIDGEWATER — William L. Sidney, 18, died Saturday (July 26, 1997) in Middlesex Borough.

Born in Somerville, he had been a lifelong resident of Bridgewater.

He was a roofer for Sidney Roofing, a family-owned business in Bridgewater.

Surviving are his father, William E., of Bridgewater; his mother, Wan-

Alf H. Saltvedt, retired bricklayer

CLINTON — Alf H. Saltvedt, 65, died Monday (July 28, 1997) at home.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., he had lived in the Somerset section of Franklin before moving to Clinton 27 years ago.

He worked many years as a bricklayer for Local 26 out of Somerville, retiring in 1994.

He was an Army veteran of Korea, serving from 1951 to 1954.

Mr. Saltvedt was a member of the Clinton Presbyterian Church in Clinton. He was also a member of the Sons of Norway.

His father, Hans Saltvedt, preceded him in death.

Surviving are his wife, Gail D. Crossan Saltvedt; a son, David H. of Whitehouse; a daughter, Janice Dowd of Bloombury; his mother, Olga Bjornsen Saltvedt of Franklin Park; two brothers, John Saltvedt of Sebastian, Fla., and Leif Saltvedt of Princeton; and a granddaughter.

Services will be at 8:30 p.m. Thursday at the Scarponi-Bright Funeral Home in Lebanon. Visitation is from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions can be made to Hunterdon Hospice, 1100 Wescott Place, Flemington, N.J. 08822.

Agnes B. Crozier, Bible group member

DELAWARE — Agnes B. Crozier, 89, died Sunday (July 27, 1997) at Hunterdon Medical Center in Raritan Township.

Born in New York City, she lived in Rutherford, Bergenfield and Titusville, Fla., before moving to Delaware in 1994.

She was a member of the Orlando, Florida Chapter of Dawn Bible Students and attended the Kirk-

Frederick Kendzierski Jr., accomplished trumpeter

BRIDGEWATER — Frederick V. Kendzierski Jr., 23, a trumpet player with a polka band that played in many states performed on national television stations, died Saturday (July 26, 1997) at Jersey Shore Medical Center, Neptune, from injuries suffered in an auto accident.

Born in Plainfield, he lived in South Plainfield before moving to Bridgewater two years ago.

Mr. Kendzierski was an electronic technician and music teacher at the Lou-Rose Music Center in Edison.

He was a 1992 graduate of South Plainfield High School and had attended Middlesex Community College for one year.

Mr. Kendzierski was an accomplished trumpet player. At South Plainfield High School, he was First Chair trumpet player in the concert band and was lead trumpet player in the marching band and the jazz band. He was a member of the school marching band, which competed in Ireland and won first place honors.

Mr. Kendzierski played trumpet with the Freddy K. Band, a well-known polka band which has played throughout the East Coast and Midwest and performed on local and national cable and television stations. He was a member of the International Polka Association in Chicago and the United States Polka Association in Cleveland.

He was a member at Our Lady of Czestochowa Roman Catholic Church, South Plainfield.

As a youngster, he played baseball with the South Plainfield Little League.

Surviving are his parents, Frederick Sr. and Linda Kendzierski; a sister, Diana Kosinski of Whitehouse Station; his maternal grandmother, Julianna Malko of Manville.

City council seeks street repair plans

By BERNICE PAGLIA
Courier-News Staff Writer

PLAINFIELD — Before approving contracts to hire engineers, the City Council wants proof that the administration has made a comprehensive list of streets to be fixed.

One of the projects the engineers would undertake is to draw up a plan for street overlays. In explaining the resolution at Monday's agenda session, Public Works Director Roger Pollard mentioned several streets which all happened to be in the 2nd Ward's Sleepy Hollow section.

Council President Malcolm Dunn, who represents the 3rd Ward, and Councilwoman Elizabeth Urquhart, up for re-election next year in the 1st Ward, named some streets that their constituents complain about, and asked for reassurances that they were on the list.

Pollard said the street problems

reported by council members had been noted and prioritized. Dunn said he wants to see the complete list before next Monday's vote just to make sure everything was included.

Pollard said consulting engineers will be doing both design and management of projects. The city has no licensed engineers and the one remaining Engineering Division staffer will no longer be overseeing projects as in the past, Pollard said, but will keep track of how much they cost.

Although Councilman Robert Ferraro questioned the cost of hiring outside engineers, Pollard said the firms had the expertise and daily interaction with state agencies that a city staff, even with licensed engineers, could not duplicate.

The outside engineers will prepare an application to have the state take over maintenance of Route 28 in the city. In recent years, taking care of the six-mile portion that winds through the city has become costly.

Session will settle Route 22 mall dispute

By EVAN GREENSTEIN
Courier-News Staff Writer

NORTH PLAINFIELD — The Borough Council has scheduled a public hearing for 8 p.m. Thursday on a possible settlement of a civil suit against the developer of the proposed Watchung Square Shopping Center.

Borough resident Doug Krisburg, a member of the North Plainfield Min-

Originally, the issue was placed on the agenda of Monday night's meeting, according to Councilman Wayne Dempsey. But, after McGarry realized he would be on vacation, it was taken off the agenda.

Dempsey, who acted as council president Monday night, proposed the Thursday council meeting early in the evening. The council's three Democrats all protested saying they wanted to hold a vote on the settlement Monday night.